DEF 12-5 Jordan

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Your 1149, Amman's A-65.

JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE

According Khammash UAC funding schedule 1964-65 was to provide Jordan 17 million pounds ($47,600,000) by end 1965. As of August he said Jordan had received $28,560,000. Same funding projected for 1966-67. These receipts envisage equipment purchases plus added support and maintenance which new materiel and troops buildup imposes.

Jordanians also have $15,000,000 credit available from US for purchases ground forces equipment in sales agreement concluded March 1965.

If UAC payments made on time and in full Jordan apparently should have enough to pay for ground forces equipment in March agreement and one squadron 20 supersonics.

UAC payments are crucial element.

Bills already submitted and billings scheduled through December 1965 on US ground forces equipment roughly $30.5 million. If Khammash claims correct re funds now available Jordan, and assuming Jordanians will draw down $15 million credit (having already made one payment to US of $4.2) GOJ would be in position make satisfactory initial payment French aircraft.

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Future UAC payments to Jordan naturally matter of concern, but would seem Arabs now have stake in UAC and have committed substantial prestige to its formation and growth. Jordan as key member and most dependent has contracted for heavy expenditures and has been urged acquire supersonics. Failure this late date for UAC to provide Jordan needed cash would be serious blow Arab pride and an eventuality we assume Arabs will want avoid.

GP-3.

XMR

Department would appreciate receiving Quai's figures re status UAC funds.

GP-3.

END

RUSK